

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 04553 051420Z

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ACTION ARA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, PINT, PE

SUBJECT: LIMA LAWYERS CHALLENGE LEFTIST'S ELECTION

REF: LIMA 4412

1. JUNE 3 LA PRENSA PUBLISHES PAID STATEMENT ISSUED BY LIMA BAR ASSOCIATION DECLARING THAT EZEQUIEL RAMIREZ' ELECTION (REFTEL) WAS A SHAM AND IS INVALID. RAMIREZ WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE PERUVIAN FEDERATION OF BAR ASSOCIATIONS AT A CONGRESS IN AYACUCHO.

2. LIMA BAR CHARGES THAT RAMIREZ' ELECTION REPRESENTS AN ATTEMPT BY SOME "TO CAPTURE CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS IN ORDER TO MOVE RAPIDLY TOWARDS THE SOVIETIZATION OF PERU". IT NOTES THAT THE ELECTION IS INVALID BECAUSE PERU'S 16 BAR ASSOCIATIONS WERE NOT REPRESENTED BY AT LEAST THREE MEMBERS OF EACH ASSOCIATION, AS THE FEDERATION'S RULES REQUIRE. FOR EXAMPLE, HUANCAMELICA AND HUANUCO WERE REPRESENTED BY ONE LAWYER EACH. EVEN A TOWN AS LARGE AS AREQUIPA ONLY MANAGED TO SEND TWO LAWYERS.

3. STATEMENT NOTES THAT LIMA BAR LEADERSHIP WAS ELECTED DEMOCRATICALLY AND THAT OVER 80 PERCENT OF PERU'S LAWYERS BELONG TO THE LIMA BAR.

4. IT COMMENTS THAT AYACUCHO CONGRESS WAS A POLITICAL AND NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 LIMA 04553 051420Z

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIR AS WAS EVIDENT FROM THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

(E.G., IMPERIALISM) AND THE PRESENCE OF "WELL KNOWN COMMUNISTS".
LIMA BAR DECLARES THAT IT DOES NOT ADVOCATE A RETURN TO THE PAST
BUT SIMPLY THE RULE OF LAW WHICH RESPECT FOR A CONSTITUTION
ENTAILS.

5. JUNE 5 LA CRONICA PUBLISHES INTERVIEW WITH RAMIREZ NOVOA, WHO
GIVES SHORT SHRIFT TO LIMA BAR DECLARATIONS AND CLAIMS THAT NOT EVEN
TWO PERCENT OF PERU'S LAWYERS SHARE THE IDEOLOGY OF LIMA DEAN
CARLOS ENRIQUE FERREYROS (A WELL KNOWN APRISTA). RAMIREZ SAYS
THAT IF LIMA BAR MAINTAINS ITS SUBVERSIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE
FEDERATION, LIMA BAR WILL LOSE ITS RECOGNITION.

6. NEEDLESS TO SAY, GOP-ORIENTED PRESS HEAVILY FAVORS RAMIREZ, WHO
WAS CONGRATULATED BY PRESIDENT VELASCO AFTER HIS VICTORY.
IT IS NONETHELESS INTERESTING THAT LIMA'S CAREFULLY REGULATED PRESS
WILL STILL PUBLISH PAID STATEMENTS SUCH AS THOSE OF LIMA'S BAR.
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